(d) and (e) The Department of Industrial Development has been merged with the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

(f) Austerity measures taken by the Government include ban on creation of posts, reduction in number of sanctioned posts, restrictions on filling up of vacant posts, reduction in office expenses, restrictions on purchase of vehicles, restrictions on foreign travel and on entertainment/hospitality expenses, etc.

Investment in Research and Development

3869. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to increase investment in R and D in the next five years;

(b) the areas selected for increase in investment; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to strengthen co-operation between research laboratories, industry, academic institution, NGOs and Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) Efforts are being made by the Government to increase investment in the R and D in future. As a beginning, for taking up of relevant technology vision projects and for increasing co-operation between our universities and R and D institutions, a provision of Rs. 50 crore has been made in this year's budget. In addition, a provision of Rs. 50 crore has also been made for launching a New Millenium Indian Technology Leadership initiative to be based on partnership between Government and Private Sector. Further, it has also been decided to allow universities and research institutions to retain the revenue generated from intellectual Property Rights through publicly funded research and also share a part of the revenue with the inventor.

Investment of Nationalised and FIs for Development of Industries

3870. SHRI E. BALANANDAN : Will the MINISTER OF FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of investment of the Nationalised banks and Financial Institutions operating in the country for the development of industries during the last three years, State-wise;